## Ontario Department of Education

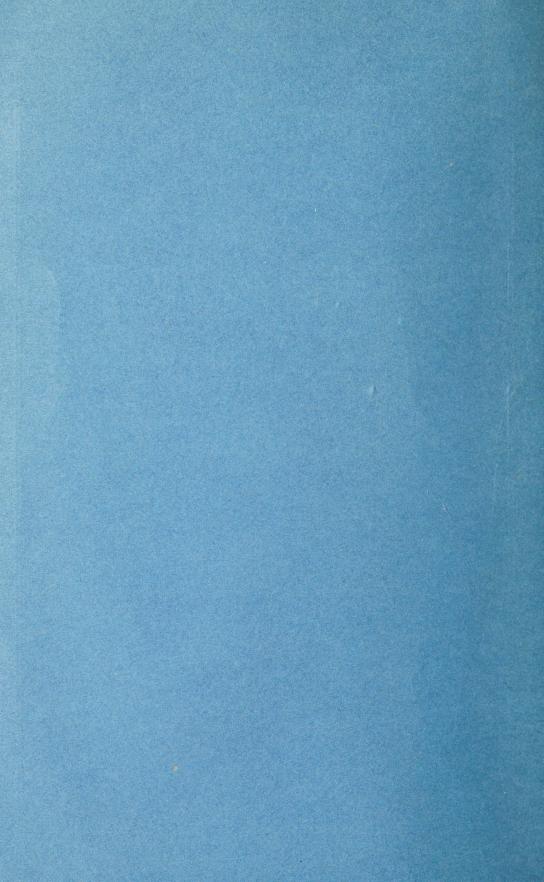
# Report on the Schools

Attended by

French-Speaking Pupils
1938



ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION



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## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FRENCH INSTRUCTION ON THE SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY FRENCH-SPEAKING PUPILS, 1938.

#### Appointments and Transfers

Mr. Rémi Millette, B.A., B.Paed., formerly assistant principal of the Sturgeon Falls High School, was appointed to R.C. Separate Division III, with residence in Cochrane. Mr. Millette, who replaced Mr. Rosario Masse, B.A., began his duties on September 1st, 1938.

Mr. Adélard Gascon, B.A., was transferred from R.C. Separate Division VII, Windsor, to R.C. Separate Division XIX and District Division XII, Part II, with residence in Ottawa.

Mr. Lucien Laplante, M.A., was transferred from R.C. Separate Division XIX and District Division XII, Part II, Ottawa, to R.C. Separate Division VII, with residence in Windsor.

#### Training of Teachers—Improvement in Qualifications

In 1937-38, there were 196 teachers-in-training at the University of Ottawa Normal School, 170 of whom were enrolled in the Second Class course, and 26 in the First Class course. As a result of the term and final examinations, 17 students were awarded First Class teachers' certificates and 121 obtained Second Class certificates.

The use of rural ungraded schools for some of the practice teaching in connection with the training of future teachers was a happy and successful innovation.

The following table shows the number of French-speaking teachers holding First or Second Class certificates in 1938, and the progress made in this regard since 1929.

Total number of teachers under French-speaking inspectors, November 1938	1,316
Total number of teachers holding I or II class certificates, November 1938	1,135
Total per cent. of teachers holding I or II class certificates, November 1938	
Total per cent. of teachers holding I or II class certificates, November 1937	
Total per cent. of teachers holding I or II class certificates, November 1929	

### Age-Grade Distribution of Pupils in Elementary Schools

The following tables present a compilation of the French-speaking School Inspectors' Annual Age-Grade Summary Reports for May 1938:—

AGE-GRADE DISTRIBUTION IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY FRENCH-SPEAKING PUPILS, MAY 1938 TABLE No. 1

(A) Separate and Public Schools
(i) Rural and Urban

Totals Per cent.	23.66	14.75	10.49	11.71	12.30	10.07	7.95	6.15	1.53	.93	.46	
Totals	11,216	6,992	4,974	5,548	5,828	4,775	3,764	2,913	727	443	217	47,397
19 yrs. and over									2	4		9
18 yrs.	:		:				-	7	00	19	-	36
17 yrs.	1	2		1	4	6	17	41	40	63	20	183
16 yrs.	:	2	4	13	21	20	142	297	138	142	17	826
15 yrs.	20	4	26	92	162	281	457	626	211	134	74	2,056
14 yrs.	18	43	65	224	477	759	924	879	202	63	47	3,701
13 yrs.	99	120	194	454	696	1,119	1,123	727	106	15	30	4,923
12 yrs.	112	229	409	852	1,371	1,321	828	290	18	9	15	5,448
111 yrs.	218	477	736	1,282	1,512	919	247	44	2		14	5,451
10 yrs.	202	1,008	1,192	1,587	1,034	288	23	2			7	5,648
9 yrs.	1,101	1,773	1,527	865	252	28	2		:	:	9	5,554
8 yrs.	2,404	2,256	738	186	26	1			:	:	-	5,612
7 yrs.	3,984	1,008	82	∞			:					5,082
6 yrs.	2,563	70	1									2,634
5 yrs.	233											233
Under 5 yrs.	4										:	4
Grade	I	П	III	IV	ν	VI	VIII.	VIII	IX	X	Auxiliary Classes	GRAND TOTALS

Nore:-Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

Totals by Grades	5,601	2,751	1,901	1,937	2,247	1,739	1,361	1,025	203	130		18,895
Totals	3,036 2,565	1,519	1,016	1,030	1,124	820 919	618	438	65	31	9,697	
19 yrs. and over									-	60 :	1 3	4
18 yrs.								12	12	03.03	50.01	111
17 yrs.	1:	-				1 ::	1200	200	∞ <del>-</del> -	17	24 27	51
16 yrs.	: :	63 :	- :		2001	46	24	44	12 24	36	99	226
15 yrs.	65 -		1001	17	37	57 26	89	94 105	19 40	23	308 278	586
14 yrs.	070	19	26	57	109	153	185	151 198	16	71	732 605	1,337
13 yrs.	31	45	64 28	115	225	216 205	176 241	96	20	.23	975 912	1,887
12 yrs.	59 21	87	124 68	191	295 261	224 302	127 201	40	00	1	1,149	2,237
11 yrs.	102	153	177	257 209	263	127	32 57	4 12			1,115	2,232
10 yrs.	196	289	243 218	262 273	154 234	36	7.3	1			1,183	2,303
9 yrs.	370 287	419 340	271 270	105	35	12					1,202	2,334
8 yrs.	713 563	367	98	26 44	3	1					1,205	2,306
7 yrs.	871 869	125 149	17	. 80							1,002	2,040
6 yrs.	576	12 13	1								589	1,165
yrs.	104 69										104 69	173
5 yrs.	12										2	က
Sex	Boys Girls	Boys	Boys	Boys	:							
Grade	I	п	ш	IV	V	VI	VIII	VIII	IX	X	Totals By Sexes	GRAND TOTALS

Norr:-Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

Totals by Grades	2,994 2,621 5,615	2,177 2,064 4,241	1,645 1,428 3,073	1,935 3,611	1,764 3,581	1,533 1,503 3,036	1,227	853 1,035 1,888	206 524	152 161 313	125 217	28 502
19 yrs. and over							:::		-	- :		2
18 yrs.	::	:::	1 : :				1:-	- CO H	10 :	11 8	H :	25
17 yrs.		1	1 ::	-	0	00:	= -	118	15	28	4-	132
16 yrs.		1 ::	e :	50	10	32	86	116	46	57	111	009
15 yrs.	1	2	14	43	77	141 57	199	204	51	35	42	1,470
14 yrs.	4	10	31	120	186	299	321	235 295	56	113	25	2,364
13 yrs.	10 8	37 20	77 25	191	340	359	322 384	182 285	28	9	13	3,036
12 yrs.	18	60	138	329	413 402	377 418	212 288	86	10		111	3,211
11 yrs.	49	154 68	272 140	429 387	420 491	258	89	9 19	.2		970	3,219
10 yrs.	135	330	409	511 541	254 392	54	7	1:			1001	3,345
9 yrs.	277	527	487 499	254	53	9	нн				40	3,220
8 yrs.	646 482	719 813	204 303	48	8 14							3,306
7 yrs.	1,166	325 409	10 49	4-1			: :		: :			3,042
6 yrs.	662 762	33										1,469
5 yrs.	25 35		: :	::			: :		: :			09
Under 5 yrs.	1											П
Sex	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	•
Grade	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII.	IX	X	Auxiliary Classes	GRAND TOTALS

Norn:-Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

(B) Separate Schools (i) RURAL AND URBAN

Totals Per cent.	23.41	14.71	10.53	11.62	12.34	10.20	7.98	6.13	1.62	1.00	.46	
Totals	10,283	6,463	4,627	5,103	5,420	4,482	3,506	2,694	712	438	201	43,929
19 yrs. and over								•	2	က	:	70
18 yrs.				:	:		1	7	00	19	-	36
17 yrs.	:	1		1	4	6	16	39	39	61	3	173
16 yrs.	:	2	4	11	17	49	134	275	137	141	15	785
15 yrs.	4	4	26	72	155	264	426	571	202	134	69	1,932
14 yrs.	16	37	62	212	448	904	844	813	199	62	44	3,443
13 yrs.	63	106	183	413	893	1,044	1,051	681	101	15	28	4,578
12 yrs.	101	199	371	778	1,260	1,251	782	269	17	60	13	5,044
11 yrs.	195	447	673	1,173	1,409	873	231	38	2		14	5,055
10 yrs.	451	935	1,094	1,467	626	263	19	1		:	7	5,216
9 yrs.	973	1,630	1,427	804	236	22	2				9	5,100
8 yrs.	2,190	2,128	705	164	19	1					1	5,208
7 yrs.	3,737	927	81	$\infty$	:	:	:					4,753
6 yrs.	2,357	47	1									2,405
5 yrs.	192	-			1							192
Under 5 yrs.	4				1 :	:	1 :		:			4
Grade	I	П	III	IV	ν	VI	VII	VIII	IX	XX	Auxiliary Classes	GRAND TOTALS

Norn:-Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

Totals by Grades	4,827	2,409	1,699	1,656	1,962	1,559	1,190	895	197	130		16 594
Totals	2,624 2,203	1,317	914	880 776	984 978	739	542 648	382 513	63	31 99	8,478 8,046	
19 yrs. and over									1:1	3	- CO	4
18 yrs.						: :		12	12	03.00	50	-
17 yrs.						- :	20 03	1010	∞ <del></del>	17	22	47
16 yrs.		2 ::	1	: 00	07	00 00	22 10	37	12 24	36	86 120	906
15 yrs.	60		1001	16	35	49	62 54	88	18 39	23	281	F.9 F.
14 yrs.	000	15	23	51	92 46	129	159	131	16	17.1	634	1 160
13 yrs.	28	34	25	99	197	195	159 207	84 147	17	2	861	1 669
12 yrs.	51	70 36	103	161	249	213 275	1111	35	121	-	994	1 052
11 yrs.	84 49	136	157	228 170	234 293	114	25 50	თ ∞			981	1 058
10 yrs.	163	249	216	218 242	145 207	34 60	1 6				1,026	9.003
9 yrs.	307	367 298	250 240	90	29 48	1 9					1,044	9 019
8 yrs.	609	332 320	94	17 36	1 2 2						1,053	2.008
7 yrs.	778	105	16								889 920	1.809
6 yrs.	500	57.0	1			: :	: :				507	1.019
5 yrs.	90										90	142
Under 5 yrs.	21										175	00
Sex	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys	Boys	Boys	
Grade	I	П	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII.	IX	X	Totals By Sexes	GRAND TOTALS

Nore;-Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

	Totals by Grades	5,456	4,054	2,928	3,447	3,458	2,923	2,316	1,799	515	308	201		27,405
	Totals	2,895 2,561	2,076	1,569	1,858	1,711	1,483	1,186	813 986	203	147	109	14,050 13,355	
	19 yrs. and over									1			1	1
	18 yrs.							1	co	20 :	11 3	1 ::	20	25
	17 yrs.		1	: :	-	1 3	∞ :	10	118	15	26	12	83	126
	16 yrs.			co :	50	10	32	82 20	107	46	56	69	351 228	579
	15 yrs.	1	2	14	41	33	137	189	191 207	51 99	35	37	774 633	1,407
	14 yrs.	4	10	31	116	184 126	292 201	305 243	223	54 81	12 26	22 22	1,253	2,274
	13 yrs.	10	36	75	178 93	328	343	312 373	177 273	27 50	2	111	1,503	2,916
	12 yrs.	18	59	128	313	399	364 399	212 277	86 104	10	HH	9	1,593	3,091
ONDON	11 yrs.	48	149 68	257	412 363	407 475	252	88	8 19			0.00	1,610	3,097
(mr)	10 yrs.	135	315	385	494 513	246 381	50	7	1			1001	1,637	3,213
	9 yrs.	273 164	503 462	471	248	51 108	5					40	1,556	3,088
	8 yrs.	633	689	195 293	46	7						1	1,570	3,200
	7 yrs.	1,131	304	10 49	4-1								1,449	2,944
-	6 yrs.	623	28										631	1,393
2010	5 yrs.	18 32			: :		: :	: :					18 32	20
Carlo A defe	Under 5 yrs.	1											1	1
The second second	Sex	Boys Girls	Boys	Boys Girls	Boys	Boys Girls								
	Grade	I	ш	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	×	Auxiliary Classes	Totals By Sexes	GRAND TOTALS

Norr:-Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

(C) Public Schools
(i) RURAL AND URBAN

Totals Per cent.	26.90	15.25	10.01	12.83	11.77	8.45	7.44	6.32	.43	.14	.46	
Totals	933	529	347	445	408	293	258	219	15	5	16	3,468
19 yrs. and over						:				1		-
18 yrs.				1	1:	:	1	:	:			
17 yrs.	-	1					-	2	1	2	2	10
16 yrs.				21	4	1	000	22	1	1	2	41
15 yrs.	-			4	7	17	31	55	4		50	124
14 yrs.	2	9	ಣ	12	29	53	80	99	60		00	258
13 yrs.	3	14	111	41	92	75	72	46	5		2	345
12 yrs.	111	30	38	74	111	70	46	21	1	:	2	404
11 yrs.	23	30	63	109	103	46	16	9				396
10 yrs.	56	73	86	120	55	25	4	1	:			432
9 yrs.	128	143	100	61	16	9						454
8 yrs.	214	128	33	22	7				:			404
7 yrs.	247	81	1	:					:			329
6 yrs.	206	23		:	:	:			:			229
5 yrs.	41			:		:						41
Grade	I	II	III	IV	Λ	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	Auxiliary Classes	GRAND TOTALS

Note:—Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

Totals by Grades	774	342	202	281	285	180	171	130	9	2,371	
Totals	412 362	202	102	150	140	99	76	56 74	24	1,221	2,371
19 yrs. and over											
18 yrs.											
17 yrs.		:	: :					2		22	4
16 yrs.				. 2	1 3	= :	22	27		13	20
15 yrs.	-				24	<b>8</b> 4	9	9		27 34	61
14 yrs.	.23	40	co :	50	17	24	26	20 21		100	168
13 yrs.	es :	11 2	900	16	28 22	21 24	17 34	12 17	3	1114	225
12 yrs.	∞ m	17	21 7	30	46	111 27	16	12	1	155	284
11 yrs.	18	17	20	29	29	13	1-1-	14		134	274
10 yrs.	233	40	27 30	44	9 27	16	1 2			157	300
9 yrs.	63	52	21 30	15 27	9	00				158	322
8 yrs.	104	35	10	0.00						152	298
7 yrs.	93	20	-							1113	231
6 yrs.	76	900								82 71	153
5 yrs.	14									14	31
Sex	Boys	Boys Girls	Boys	Boys	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys	Boys	Boys	
Grade	I	11	III	IV	Λ	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Totals By Sexes	GRAND TOTALS

NorE:-Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

Totals by Grades	159	187	145	164	123.	113	87	89	6	20	16	1.097
Totals	66	101	76	77	53	50	41 46	40	200	10	16	1.097
19 yrs. and over										-		-
18 yrs.			: :									
17 yrs.							- :		-	53 :	2 :	9
16 yrs.							4 :	0 4	=	-	2 :	21
15 yrs.				2	- :	4 -1	10	113	.23		10	63
14 yrs.				4	6.2	11	16	13	C1 —	H :	co :	06
13 yrs.		-	2	13	12	16	10	12			21	120
12 yrs.		60	10	16	14	13		. 4			2	120
11 yrs.	H :	٠ ت	15	17 24	113	13	2	1				122
10 yrs.		51	24	17 28	8 11	4.60						132
9 yrs.	400	24	16 33	13	24	:01						132
8 yrs.	13	30 26	10	27 82	-10							901
7 yrs.	35	23			:							86
6 yrs.	39 28	40										92
5 yrs.	200											10
Sex	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	Boys Girls	
Grade		II	III	IV	Λ	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	Auxiliary Classes	GRAND TOTALS

Norm:-Heavy lines denote ideal age spread for each grade.

#### TABLE No. 2

# ANALYSIS OF AGE-GRADE DISTRIBUTION IN RELATION TO IDEAL AGE SPREAD IN ELEMENTARY RURAL AND URBAN SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY FRENCH-SPEAKING PUPILS, MAY 1938

#### (A) Separate and Public Schools

GRADE		der e Spread		thin e Spread	Or Ideal Ag	ver e Spread
GRADE	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.
I	1 8 26 29 25 46 20 18	0.04 	6,780 3,334 2,347 2,638 2,798 2,528 2,198 1,896 519 339	60.45 47.68 47.18 47.55 48.00 52.94 58.39 65.09 71.39 76.52	4,432 3,658 2,626 2,902 3,004 2,218 1,541 971 188 86	39.51 52.32 52.73 52.31 51.54 46.45 40.94 33.33 25.86 19.41
Totals	177	0.37	25,377	53.79	21,626	45.84

Note:—The 217 pupils enrolled in Auxiliary classes are not included in the above table.

#### (B) Separate Schools

GRADE	-	ider ge Spread		thin se Spread	1	ver ge Spread
GRADE	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.
I		0.04	6,286 3,102	61.13 48.00	3,993 3,361	38.83 52.00
IIIIV	8	.02	2,213 2,435	47.83 47.72	2,413 2,660	52.15 52.12
V VI	23	.35	2,624 2,387	48.41 53.26	2,777 2,072	51.24 46.23
VIII	39	1.45	2,064 1,763	58.88 65.44	1,421 892	40.53 33.11
19 18		2.67 4.11	507 337	71.21 76.94	186 83	26.12 18.95
Totals	152	0.35	23,718	54.24	19,858	45.41

Note:—The 201 pupils enrolled in Auxiliary classes are not included in the above table.

#### (C) Public Schools

GRADE	Under Ideal Age Spread		Within Ideal Age Spread		Over Ideal Age Spread	
GRADE	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.
I II III III IV V V VIII VIII IX X	7 6 4 7	1.72 2.05 1.55 3.20 6.67	494 232 134 203 174 141 134 133 12 2	52.95 43.86 38.62 45.62 42.65 48.12 51.94 60.73 80.00 40.00	439 297 213 242 227 146 120 79 2 3	47.05 56.14 61.38 54.38 55.63 49.83 46.51 36.07 13.33 60.00
Totals	25	0.73	1,659	48.05	1,768	51.22

Note:—The 16 pupils enrolled in Auxiliary classes are not included in the above table.

#### TABLE No. 3

## GRADE-ENROLMENT DISTRIBUTION IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY FRENCH-SPEAKING PUPILS, MAY 1938

#### (A) Separate and Public Schools

Grades	Rural		Urban		Rural and Urban	
Grades	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.
I–IV. V–VIII IX–X. Auxiliary.	6,372 333	64.52 33.72 1.76	16,540 10,908 837 217	58.03 38.27 2.94 .76	28,730 17,280 1,170 217	60.61 36.46 2.47 .46

#### (B) Separate Schools

Grades	Rural		Urban		Rural and Urban	
Grades	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.
I–IV V–VIII IX–X. Auxiliary.	5,606 327	64.09 33.93 1.98	15,885 10,496 823 201	57.97 38.30 3.00 .73	26,476 16,102 1,150 201	60.27 36.65 2.62 .46

#### (C) Public Schools

Grades	Rural		Urban		Rural and Urban	
Grades	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.	Number	Per cent.
I–IV V–VIII IX–X Auxiliary	766 6	67.44 32.31 .25	655 412 14 16	59.71 37.56 1.27 1.46	2,254 1,178 20 16	65.00 33.96 .58 .46

While the foregoing statistical tables show some progress over the situation reported in 1937, it is evident that much remains to be done yet in order to bring about a satisfactory age-grade distribution of pupils and to check the excessive drop in enrolment in the senior grades of the elementary school. It will be observed, for instance, that while 11,216 pupils were enrolled in Grade I classes of all elementary schools attended by French-speaking pupils in 1938, only 2,913 were found enrolled in Grade VIII classes. (Table No. 1, (A), (i)). This great discrepancy between the Grade I and Grade VIII enrolments would appear to be due largely to the fact that more than 50 per cent. of the pupils enrolled in Grades II, III, IV and V are too old for their respective classes, and are likely to drop out before reaching the higher grades of the school. (Table No. 2, (A)).

Of course, it will require some time, probably seven or eight years, before the conditions obtaining at present in the elementary schools are properly adjusted to the desired standards. That teachers and inspectors are sincerely applying themselves to correct the existing situation is unquestionable. The following comparison, for instance, shows clearly the successful effort that has been put forth within the past year.

	Under Ideal Age Spread (per cent.)	Within Ideal Age Spread (per cent.)	Over Ideal Age Spread (per cent.)
Grade I	0.03	53.28 61.13	46.69 38.83
Grade II		36.52 48.00	63.48 52.00
Grade III	.02	36.13 47.83	63.87 52.15

See 1937 Report, Table No. 2, and Table No. 2, (B) of this Report.

That much progress in only one year augurs well for the future.

#### Secondary School Classes

The following table shows the number of French-speaking pupils enrolled in December 1938 in the special French courses of Collegiate Institutes, High and Continuation Schools under Departmental supervision.

Grade	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII	Total
Number enrolled	327	182	155	143	32	839

There are, besides, 1,170 French-speaking pupils enrolled in Grades IX and X of the elementary schools (Table No. 1 (A), (i)) and approximately 1,000 who are taking these same courses in private schools and colleges. An effort will be made during the coming year to verify the last figure. Thus, in the province, there would be in all about 3,000 French-speaking pupils pursuing their studies in Grades IX to XIII in which advanced courses in French Grammar, French Literature and French Composition are given. If this number of 3,000 is compared with the approximate French-speaking school population from Grades I to XIII, say 50,000, we find that about 6 per cent. of the French-speaking pupils in Ontario remain at school beyond Grade VIII. This picture is not brightened when one analyses the table given above and observes that only 20 per cent. of those entering secondary schools reach either Grade XIII or Grade XIII and that less than 4 per cent. attain Grade XIII.

Obviously, the main cause of this low and rapidly decreasing enrolment from grade to grade in the secondary schools is to be found and eradicated in the elementary school classes. Once the problem is solved in the elementary departments of the school, there should be automatic improvement in the secondary school enrolment and age-grade distribution of pupils. A continued effort should be made by teachers and inspectors to impress French-speaking parents and children with the importance of a good education. In some parts of the province, home and school clubs have been very helpful in that regard.

## French Books in Secondary School Libraries

Marked progress was made during 1938 in the establishment and development of French libraries in the 16 secondary schools attended by French-speaking

pupils. The following table, which was compiled from Principals' reports, shows the number and value of French books purchased during 1937 and 1938.

	Number	Value
French books purchased in 1937.	276	\$204.95
French books purchased in 1938	729	413.77
cember 31st, 1938	3,373	1,597.97

Secondary school boards, principals and teachers are to be commended for adding so generously during 1938 to their school libraries. Such investments to provide their classes with appropriate material for supplementary reading are sound and profitable.

## Preparation and Revision of French Text-Books

The work of revising French text-books now in use in schools attended by French-speaking pupils and of preparing additional books was carried on successfully during the year. Dr. Louis Charbonneau, a member of the teaching staff of the University of Ottawa Normal School, was relieved of his ordinary duties and assigned this special task. The revision of the two authorized texts, Recueil de Morceaux Choisis and Lectures Choisies, used for teaching French Literature in Grades IX to XIII was completed. Circular 23-B, containing the details of the courses in French given at the University of Ottawa Normal School was also revised. A vast amount of preliminary work in connection with the preparation of new French readers was undertaken; a new French pre-primer entitled Frou-Frou et Fin-Fin was prepared and will be ready for the opening of schools in September, 1939.

#### **Provincial Contest**

A Province-wide competition was organized during the year among the 3,000 Grade VIII French-speaking pupils. After winning preliminary tests in their own schools and inspectorates, twenty-two contestants—one boy and one girl from each of the eleven French-speaking inspectorates—took part in the finals held in Ottawa on May 25th, 1938. The four winners, who were awarded secondary school scholarships, were as follows:

1st boy: Jean-Guy Blais, 12 years old, of Sturgeon Falls; 1st girl: Gilberte Dubois, 12 years old, of Hawkesbury; 2nd boy: Roger Despatie, 12 years old, of Ottawa; 2nd girl: Jeannine Dubé, 12 years old, of Ottawa.

This contest was organized with two main objectives in view: firstly, to draw into closer co-operation the home and the school; secondly, to impress upon French-speaking parents and children the importance of secondary school education. Reports from teachers and inspectors all over the province show that this first attempt was very successful and that it should be repeated annually.

#### Teachers' Study Groups

A very interesting experiment was carried on during the year in the majority of French-speaking inspectorates. Teachers' study groups, known as Cercles pédagogiques, were organized with the special aim of acquainting the teachers thoroughly with the new Programme of Studies and other matters affecting particularly schools attended by French-speaking pupils. Inspectors report

favourably on the results obtained through the establishment of these study groups. In one of the Eastern Ontario inspectorates, for instance, the Inspector states that all the teachers under his jurisdiction are divided into four such groups, each group meeting with the Inspector once a month, on Friday evening, to study their particular school problems. In this case, of course, it means that the Inspector must spend practically every Friday evening with one-quarter of his teaching staff, but, according to this Inspector's report, the improvement noted in the classrooms is well worth the time and energy such conferences require. This spirit of co-operation between teachers and inspectors is to be highly commended.

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Director of French Instruction.

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